8. Mason JB, Shoda R, Haskell M, Selhub J, Rosenberg IH: Carrier affinity as a mechanism for the pH-dependence of folate transport in the small intestine. Biochim Biophys Acta 1990; 1024:331-335

9. Gray GM, Santiago NA: Disaccharide absorption in normal and diseased human intestine. Gastroenterology 1966; 51:489-498

10. Bhandari SD, Gregory JF 3d: Inhibition by selected food components of human and porcine intestinal pteroylpolyglutamate hydrolase activity. Am J Clin Nutr 1990; 51:87-94

11. Naughton CA, Chandler CJ, Duplantier RB, Halsted CH: Folate absorption in alcoholic pigs: In vitro hydrolysis and transport at the intestinal brush border membrane. Am J Clin Nutr 1989; 50:1436-1441

12. Tamura T, Kaiser LL: The absorption of pteroylpolyglutamate and intestinal pteroylpolygammaglutamyl hydrolase activity in zinc-deficient rats. J Nutr 1991; 121:1042-1046

13. Ghishan FK, Said HM, Wilson PC, Murrell JE, Greene HL: Intestinal transport of zinc and folic acid: A mutual inhibitory effect. Am J Clin Nutr 1986; 43:258-262

14. Gregory JF III, Ink SL, Cerda JJ: Comparison of pteroylpolyglutamate hydrolase (folate conjugase) from porcine and human intestinal brush border membrane. Comp Biochem Physiol [B] 1987; 88:1135-1141

15. Chandler CJ, Harrison DA, Buffington CA, Santiago NA, Halsted CH: Functional specificity of jejunal brush-border pteroylpolyglutamate hydrolase in pig. Am J Physiol 1991; 260:G865-872

INSERTING A CHEST TUBE WITHOUT ANESTHESIA

All the doctor knows is restricted
to the furnace of my chest.
The infection electrifies my ribs.
When the doctor touches me
he is shocked.
It is small warning.
He leaves me burning
and returns
with the metal dilator.

I tilt on my side, tense
as timber about to fall.
A sterile drape covers
my face and shoulders;
its sheen traps my heat
then transfers it to me.
The doctor wedges the dilator
between my ribs and pounds,
ax to wood, splintering tissue—
how many blows?
I lose count—after one
there are no numbers.

MICHELE WYREBEK©
Sterling, Massachusetts